

Date submitted (UTC-11): 10/12/2020 12:00:00 AM
First name: Gretchen
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Organization:
Title:
Comments:
Oct. 12, 2020

RE: Grand Targhee Master Development Plan Projects

Thank you for accepting my comment.

I am concerned about the timing of this proposal. I am commenting at the last minute because I have been busy holding my life together during this pandemic. And, I have been busy advocating for voting, promoting candidates and plain trying to make sense about what is true and what is false in this upcoming election[hellip]which is only weeks away. I am sure that I am not the only one in this situation. I ask that you extend the comment period for this part of your project.

I suggest that you do not need the 1,200-acre expansion. The size of the resort is adequate. You have not built out the plan which you currently have. Why do you need more expansion, lifts, restaurants, warming shacks, cat tracks, ridge top roads when you have not built the lift on Peaked yet? Or the other lifts in your current plan?

Is this possibly a move to make Grand Targhee Resort more desirable to a buyer? I am suspicious since the current plan has not been built out.

The ongoing noise from cat skiing, avalanche bombing, ski lifts, parking lots, even more skiers, grooming, roads, snowmobiles etc. is pollution and should not be allowed. And this will harm wildlife. Animals are supposed to be protected in the adjacent Jedediah Wilderness.

The noise from construction of this expansion is also objectionable. Bulldozers, chainsaws, helicopters and lots of other noise will occur.

The visual and light pollution already is a problem at Grand Targhee. At night we see groomers creeping up and down the mountain. In the day, both in winter and summer, we see the reflected light from the lifts and the top lift station at the resort. Any ridgetop development, be it building or road is reprehensible. This would be seen from the Valley Floor, Jedediah Wilderness, Grand Teton National Park, Yellowstone Park.

Expansion into the South Bowl would ruin access and enjoyment for back country skiers. More bike trails would only create the same mess that the torn-up slopes of Grand Targhee present with the trails already there. This is an obscene site. And terrible for erosion.

Cat skiing, lifts, restaurants in yet another expansion into the so called "South Bowl" are unacceptable.

As I said, 40 years ago when the proposal for private ownership at the Grand Targhee was put forth, I want to preserve the wildlands, unobstructed views, the wildlife of public land for my daughters. Now years and several expansions later, I ask that this land be protected for my Grandsons.

An alternative with NO EXPANSION INTO THE SOUTH BOWL should be included and explored in this analysis.

I ask that

Thank you,

Gretchen Notzold